

Federation, serving as the executive director of public policy before being appointed executive vice president in 2018.

Dale has maintained an exemplary reputation for decades. He will be sincerely missed as he enters retirement, and his positive contributions to agriculture policy will be remembered for many years.

Congratulations, Dale, on your successful career. Best wishes to you in your next chapter.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MASTER SERGEANT CHRISTOPHER NEAL HOUSER

(Mr. BURCHETT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BURCHETT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Master Sergeant Christopher Neal Houser as Tennessee's Second District's Veteran of the Month.

He served in the United States Air Force during the Gulf war, the war on terrorism, and the Cold War.

Chris was raised in Clinton, Tennessee, and graduated from Clinton High School in 1980. He then attended Tennessee Tech University, where he received his degree in business administration and business management. On July 23, 1982, he enlisted in the Tennessee Air National Guard, and he served his country for over 31 years, Mr. Speaker, with the 134th Air Refueling Wing as a personnel specialist.

Outside of his military life, Chris was known as a bit of a hometown hero for all the time that he gave to Blount County student athletics. He coached Little League baseball, youth basketball, and football, and he volunteered at William Blount High School to work with the baseball and softball teams as the field guy for over 17 years. The softball field is now named after him in honor of his many years of volunteer service.

Just a few weeks ago, on May 24, 2022, unfortunately, Chris passed away after a 9-year battle with lung cancer, with his family by his side. I offer my condolences to his wife of 36 years, Donna; his children, Drew, Jessica, and Jennifer; his mother, Jean; and the many other family members and friends who loved him dearly right up to the end.

It is my honor to stand here today and commemorate Chris' lifetime of service to his country and to his community by naming him as Tennessee's Second District's Veteran of the Month.

DEMOCRATS SIMPLY DID NOT LISTEN

(Mr. ROSE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ROSE. Mr. Speaker, our country is in an inflation crisis caused by the Biden administration's failed leftwing, progressive policies.

We have families who can't find baby formula for their newborns, grocery stores with empty shelves, workers filling up their gas tanks for twice what they paid 2 years ago, and farmers paying triple for fertilizer compared to two harvests ago.

H.R. 7606, the bill that passed the House last week, will do nothing to combat these crises in the immediate future. Instead, Congress should consider a bill introduced by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. THOMPSON), my friend and ranking member of the House Agriculture Committee.

H.R. 8069, the Reducing Farm Input Costs and Barriers to Production Act, will work to immediately combat rising food and fuel costs and has the support from our farmers, ranchers, and producers.

However, once again, Democrats passed a bill that doesn't fix our problems, nor does it increase our domestic food or fuel production, and they blame everything on Republicans. Let the record show we offered real solutions, and Democrats simply did not listen.

COST OF LIVING IS MORE THAN REPORTED

(Mr. GROTHMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. GROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, this is directed to the press as much as to the Chair and whoever is listening at home.

Everybody knows we have a lot of inflation. We are supposed to repeat again and again that inflation was at 8.6 percent in May, which is the highest it has been in 40 years. The press should report that there is no way inflation is only 8.6 percent.

Housing is listed as going up 5.5 percent. Have you talked to any landlords? Have you talked to any builders? There is a contorted way that you arrive at that 5.5 percent. That number should be more like 15 to 20 to 25 percent.

Talk to some car dealers. See if they think the cost of used cars has gone up only 16.1 percent in the last year. That number should be 30 percent.

We should not let the administration get away with such low numbers. I call upon the American press to do a little bit of research for once and tell us what the real cost of living has gone up in this country over the last year. It is way more than 8.6 percent.

RELEASE ALEX DRUEKE AND ANDY HUYNH

(Ms. JACKSON LEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to assert the sovereignty of the United States of America, to applaud the bipartisan commitment to the Ukrainians who are fighting for democracy, and to acknowledge Alex Drueke

and Andy Huynh, who are fighting as volunteers in the Ukrainian Army and have now been captured by the enemy.

The enemy wants to call them a name that I refuse to say on the floor of the House. They are, in fact, volunteers, and they should be subject to the international obligations that Russia must adhere to and must look at the conventions that may be relevant. Their lives must be protected. They are soldiers who desired to fight for democracy.

I am proud of them, as I am of the Americans who are held around the world falsely, in particular Paul Whelan and Brittney Griner, who are held as hostages in Russia. They are wrongly held, and I ask that we pursue this as Americans and the American Government to help release Brittney Griner, release Paul Whelan, stop the false judicial system and legal system of Russia, and bring our Americans home.

We should not leave Alex Drueke and Andy Huynh on the battlefield. We need to protect them as a sovereign nation.

REPUBLICAN STUDY COMMITTEE'S BLUEPRINT TO SAVE AMERICA

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. AUCHINCLOSS). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2021, the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. HERN) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HERN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the topic of this Special Order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Oklahoma?

There was no objection.

Mr. HERN. Mr. Speaker, America is in crisis. Inflation is at its highest in four decades. Drugs, weapons, and all other manner of contraband, along with hundreds of thousands of unvetted migrants, are pouring over our southern border with almost no resistance. Our national debt is over \$30 trillion, a sum of money that most people cannot even begin to comprehend.

Suffice to say, the past 18 months of Democratic rule have been a disaster. The American people are sick and tired of their government recklessly spending their tax dollars while families struggle to put food on the table and fill up their gas tanks.

Can you blame them? Families across the country are sitting at home trying to make ends meet while the Federal Government runs around and spends their money like it is going out of style.

President Biden often likes to tout his understanding of kitchen-table economics. However, the so-called budget that the President produced a few months ago never balances and adds